

I am director of medical informatics at MedStar Health group. I'm responsible for the delivery of critical medical data to doctors around the washington area. It would be impossible for me to carry out this function without the special services and functions offered by the competitive ISPs -- the incumbent LECs simply do not offer what we need in order to care for our patients. Until competing companies can quickly deliver new wire loops installed at homes and offices, these critical resources must be made available to other service providers. The incumbents benefitted from nearly a century of government-regulated monopoly, and the connectivity built during that time is a precious national resource. Thank you for your time.